

WORKS IN PROGRESS

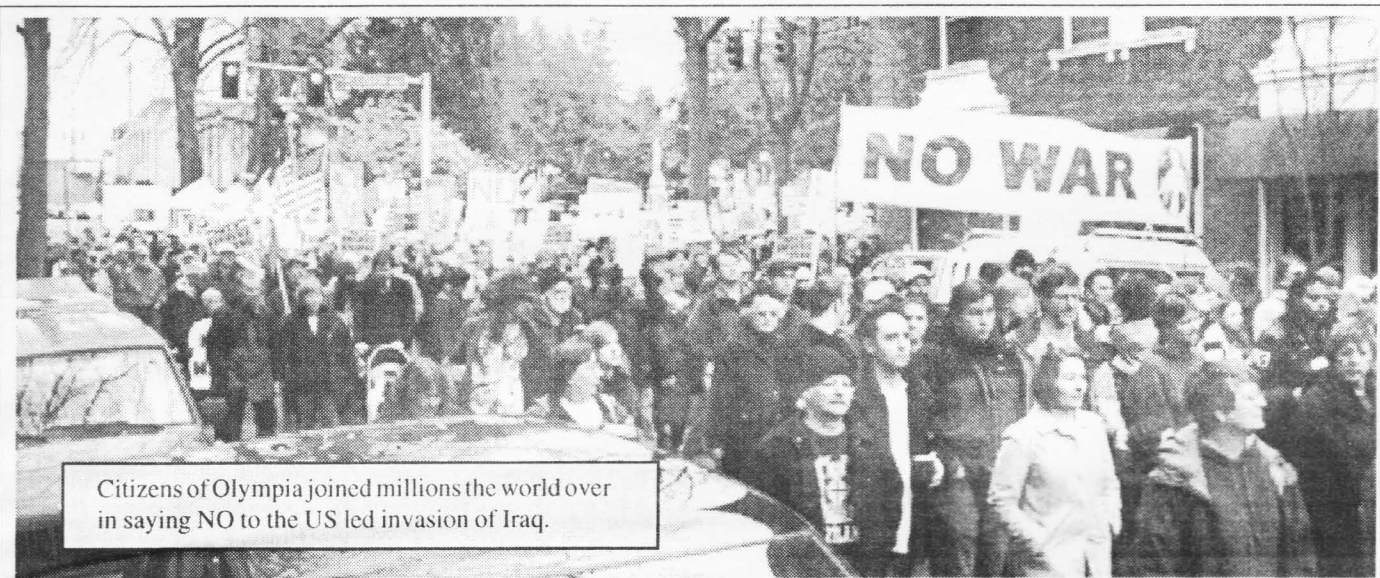
VOLUME 15, NUMBER 7

THURSTON COUNTY RAINBOW COALITION

NOVEMBER 2004

STOP THE WAR!

NOVEMBER 5 - 6: WHOEVER IS ELECTED, DEMAND AN END TO THE ESCALATION OF THE IRAQ WAR AND THE OCCUPATION



Citizens of Olympia joined millions the world over in saying NO to the US led invasion of Iraq.

photo by Kaden

No matter who wins the presidency, the U.S. military will still be in Iraq, illegally occupying that country and wreaking misery upon its people. We need to demand an end to the occupation—not the war's escalation—for the safety of both the U.S. soldiers and the Iraqi people.

The National United for Peace and Justice Coalition and others have called for national days of actions the weekend after the elections. Local residents from the Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (OMJP), Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR), Veterans for Peace and Olympia-Rafah Sister City met to discuss possible plans. The following plan was decided upon—NO MATTER WHO WINS THE ELECTION.

We, of course, can expect NO good to come out of the Bush administration, so we need to strengthen our struggle and resolve, if he wins or even steals the election. It is also possible that the election will be in dispute and mired in corruption, just as in 2000. The people of the US and the South Sound will make their voices heard this time, as the cost in actual lives and deaths are too high to leave it to the politicians.

It is clear that the peace community cannot depend on Kerry, on his own initiative, to have a peace policy that is beneficial for the US, Iraq or Palestine/Israel. It may be even more important to protest and struggle if Kerry wins, since he "may" be more susceptible to pressure (especially some of his advisors), if the people are well organized.

The election will be on November 2—the "Honeymoon" ENDS on November 3. We cannot make the mistake that many progressives did with Clinton, and believe that he was on the side of peace and justice on a global scale.

The two major actions that local peace groups decided to endorse were the following:

FRI. NOV. 5:

Hold a "STOP THE WAR" sign during morning rush-hour: All over the greater Olympia-Lacey-Tumwater area, commuters will see their neighbors, co-workers, and other folks holding "STOP THE WAR" signs at prominent intersections while they drive to work between **7:00 and 8:30 or 9:00 in the morning**. The goal is to show massive public pressure to STOP THE WAR, regardless of who wins the election—and stimulate workers to talk about the war when they arrive at work. A list of suggested intersections is below. More than 70 people have signed up thus far for this task.

SAT. NOV. 6:

"Post-Election Peace Summit" in Olympia and other activities nationwide: On the first Saturday after the election dozens of local peace folks will gather to generate ideas and energies for planning our next grassroots steps toward peace. A well-facilitated process and lots of small group interaction and creativity will make the day productive and sow the seeds for a variety of strategically smart activities. Mark your calendar now for **1:30 to 5:00 p.m.** and watch for publicity. The location is the First Christian Church at 7th and Franklin, Downtown Olympia. We invite you to join with us or to organize your own local activities, if you live elsewhere. Info: 867-6513 and the OMJP website, www.omjp.org. Watch for further details on this event.

The "STOP THE WAR" sign waving will be completely safe and legal, such as when local candidates and elected officials have their people out during their campaigns. This is to inform the public and not to interfere with their (our) movements. The following are high traf-

fic intersections where 4-8 sign wavers are needed. People are encouraged to gather here or at another intersection near their homes, jobs, or schools from 7-9AM or for part of that time.

WESTSIDE: Harrison and Division—Cooper Pt. and Harrison—Cooper Pt. and Black Lake—Cooper Pt. and Evergreen Park Dr. (east of Auto Mall)—Cooper Pt. and Conger (by Capital High School)—Harrison and West Bay (traffic circle)—Decatur St. SW and Mottman Rd. (entrance to SPSCC)

DOWNTOWN AND NEARBY: 4th Avenue bridge—5th Avenue bridge—Capitol Way and 4th—Capitol Way and 5th—State and East Bay—Plum and 4th—State Capitol Campus at Capitol and 11th and Capitol and 14th

EASTSIDE: East Bay and San Francisco—Plum and 8th—Plum and Union—4th and Pacific and Martin Way—Pifer or Central and North St. (near entrance to Olympia High School)

For more information on where additional sites may be, contact the following e-mail: stopthewar@workingsystems.com, Phone: (360) 943-7640 x131. Visit the OMJP website, www.omjp.org or (360) 867-6513.



www.omjp.org

OPD Chief lies to council and city manager in print

by Drew Hendricks

Police Chief Gary Michel wrote an official response to Copwatch commentary at the September 28, 2004 Olympia City Council meeting in which he claimed that "In the DeBoer instance, both contacts did not reach the subject. So even though the device did discharge, it had no effect on Mr. DeBoer."

Unfortunately, his police officers did not support that assertion in their reports on the case. They directly contradict what the Police Chief claimed to his employer, Olympia City Manager Steve Hall, in a memo dated October 1, 2004.

In fact, Kent DeBoer was being TASED at the moment he was shot – six times – by Olympia Police Officers on January 11, 2002. Kent DeBoer survived the incident and still deals with the physical aftermath of his injuries.

Olympia Police Sergeant John Hutchings wrote on 1/12/02: "He was holding it over his head and as his arm began its forward motion, the taser (sic) was deployed and instantly, I heard gunshots. I distinctly heard three shots. I then watched Kent dropped (sic) to the carpeted floor towards the fire-place."

Olympia Police Officer John Tupper wrote on January 12, 2002 that: "I could see that Kent had two bullet holes in his torso area on his left side. There was bleeding in Kent's shoulder area and I could see tissue out of a hole in his shirt and believed that he had a bullet hole there as well. There was very little blood coming out externally. Also Kent had the two probes from the Taser still stuck in his torso. I removed the probe that was near his belly button, and Officer Dawson removed the probe that was in near Kent's shoulder."

City Council members Laura Ware and TJ Johnson asked that the Police Chief or City Manager clarify the discrepancy. Mayor Mark Foutch asked that the Copwatch members sit down with City staff and hash out our terms, stating at October 19th's Council meeting that we were "...speaking past one another." Indeed.

(See page 4 for stats on OPD use of force.)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Works In Progress is a free, volunteer operated progressive community newspaper. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Workers In Progress and are solely those of the authors.

Submissions:

Please send text as Word attachments. Artwork and photos can be sent electronically or we can scan them for you as camera-ready/black & white.

WIP reserves the right to publish in whole or part all submissions. For editing purposes, please enclose your phone number.

Articles may be reprinted. Please cite source.

If you don't see your issue being covered in Works In Progress, it's because you aren't writing about it! (Or aren't finding someone else to cover it!)

Send submissions to wip@zhonka.net or mail to Works In Progress, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507-0295.

Governing Tool:

The following statement is part of the Editorial Policy and is the governing tool for the Anti-Discrimination Clause:

WIP will make every effort to work with the contributor of material considered by WIP to be offensive in order to reach a mutually agreed upon resolution, but WIP reserves the right as a last resort to edit or not print submitted material.

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Sebastian Chase	Sandy Mayes
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Mission Statement:

"Our aim is to confront injustice and encourage a participatory democracy based on economic, social, and environmental justice. Works In Progress is dedicated to providing a voice for those most affected by the exclusionary and unfair practices that seek to silence the oppressed."

Anti-Discrimination Clause:

We will collectively endeavor to be sensitive and respectful to all those oppressed in this society, and their issues. However, if and when we should make a mistake in this regard, we expect to acknowledge it and to express regret for injury or insult given.

Back Issues:

Get your catalog of indexed WIPs below. Some back issues are available in the Timberland Library system. WIP is being archived on microfilm by the UW Library.

About the front cover:

Hey - if we can't offer any bonafide "good" news, the least we can do is provide some fortifying comic relief.

WIP Schedule

Submission Deadline:

November 19

PO Box 295, Olympia WA
98507

wip@zhonka.net * www.olywa.net/wip

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Announcements, etc.

29th Annual Holiday Peace Vigil

The annual vigil is an Olympia tradition. Signs are provided, but participants may bring their own. Children are welcome. Participants may enjoy free refreshments afterward nearby.

"During this holiday season of joy and good will, let us set aside all violence and militarism, which are the opposites of joy and good will," said Glen Anderson, vigil organizer. "The vigil gives participants and passersby an opportunity to pause and consider choosing peace instead of violence. Peace is so much more consistent with the holiday spirit."

WHEN AND WHERE:

Saturday December 18 from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. on the Percival Landing boardwalk beside Water Street between State and Fourth.

The vigil is sponsored by the Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR). The Olympia FOR has worked nonviolently since 1976 on a variety of peace and social justice issues. It is the local affiliate of a broadly interfaith, international pacifist organization founded in 1914.

The Olympia FOR has also sponsored a weekly peace vigil in Sylvester Park at the corner of Legion and Capitol Way, from 12 noon to 1 p.m. every Wednesday since March 5, 1980, and another from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the south end of Percival Landing since the late 1990s.

For information contact Glen Anderson at (360) 491-9093 or glen@olywa.net or visit the Olympia FOR's website, www.olyfor.org.

Thurston County ACLU is looking for a new chair for its county chapter.

Outgoing chapter chair, Bruce DeLoria, is moving out of state. The membership of the ACLU in Thurston County will receive a survey in the mail in late October, which will ask them about their interests in the local chapter, and how they would like to participate. The November meeting of the TC-ALCU will be cancelled, to allow this survey to be studied before the December meeting. ALCU is always the second Wednesday of the Month. Next meeting would be on December 14, 2004 at the Olympia City Center, downtown.

Contact Drew Hendricks 870-3127

Date with Democracy

Watch the election unfold with fellow progressives

Election night

Tuesday Nov. 2nd

508 Legion Way: Upstairs in the

Dub Narcotic Studio

5-7pm potluck

7-midnight: BYOB TV will be on

Bake Sale!

Music: SPIN ALLEY

Iron on decals: Bring your own blank t-shirt

Dance, Discuss, Plan the Future

*Organized by the Sherwood Press/
Olympia Propaganda Squad and K
Records*

Free Radio Olympia

New frequency!

FRO 101.9 FM

Remember
Buy Nothing Day
November 26

www.adbusters.org

The Truth About Poverty:

Free Community Workshops

WHO: The workshops are funded by a grant from the United Way of Thurston County and were developed by the Poverty Action Team following the Facing Our Future Forum that took place on October 27, 2003. Members of the poverty action team represent an unusually diverse collection of organizations working together to provide real education about poverty.

WHAT: The workshops will provide safe environments where attendees can receive information about poverty within Thurston County, hear from and ask questions of people who have survived or are currently experiencing poverty, and participate in role playing activities that foster understanding of the decisions people living in poverty must make every day. The workshops are solution oriented, focusing on what is currently happening in the community to alleviate poverty and how to get involved.

WHEN AND WHERE:

-Lacey Timberland Regional Library

Monday, November 1, 2004 from 5:30 to 7:30p.m.

-Tumwater Timberland Regional Library

Wednesday, November 3, 2004 from 5:30 to 7:30p.m.

-The Evergreen State College, Seminar 2 D-1105

Wednesday, November 17, 2004 from noon to 2:00pm

-Olympia Timberland Regional Library

Wednesday, November 17, 2004 from 6:30 to 8:30p.m.

Contact:

Monica Peabody (360) 352-9716

Tanya Jones (360) 943-0780x125

Peace Talk

Second Monday of the month

Conversations about the choices we make in every aspect of our lives. From inner peace (how we think of ourselves), to community peace (how we take care of those around us), to world peace (how we treat those who believe, look or act different than ourselves).

Each month we will focus on one aspect of life; from the very personal to the very global. Topics to include, but not limited to, veteran's issues; compassionate (non-violent) communication; dispute resolution techniques; how the local, state & federal budget affects peace; police vs. peace-keepers; road rage; and peace scouts (adults & children learning co-operatively about peace issues).

Together we will hear from 2 or 3 speakers on a subject, from their perspective. This will last no more than ½ hour. We will then entertain a conversation amongst ourselves on the issue.

November 8, 7:00 to 8:30 pm

Traditions Fair Trade & Café

Personal Peace in a time of

turmoil:

Bill Fisher – Writer & musician; creator of occasional political e-zine, *The Bozo Papers*, and literary e-zine, *Soft Focus*. Bill will speak about finding Peace in creative expression, communication and communion.

Molly Gibbs – Leadership coach in supporting personal change. Molly will lead us in a short process to help define personal vision & the source of our personal power.

Contact: Terry Zander, 786-1693, tezzzer1@msn.com.

NOVEMBER 2004



Trying to eliminate Saddam...would have incurred incalculable human and political costs...We would have been forced to occupy Baghdad and, in effect, rule Iraq....There was no viable 'exit strategy' we could see, violating another of our principles. Furthermore, we had been consciously trying to set a pattern for handling aggression in the post-Cold War world. Going in and occupying Iraq, thus unilaterally exceeding the United Nations' mandate, would have destroyed the precedent of international response to aggression that we hoped to establish. Had we gone the invasion route, the United States could conceivably still be an occupying power in a bitterly hostile land.

George Bush Sr, *A World Transformed* (1998)

Sources: secondterm.us; Kayanna Hoagland

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursdays	Friday	Saturday
Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power. Abraham Lincoln	1 2002: Iraqi official warns Americans will go to hell if they attack 2002: WADoE sets fire near Black River to eradicate Scotch broom	2 2003: Iraqi resistance shoots down a Chinook helicopter killing 16 2003: Episcopal Church ordains gay bishop in NH	3 2003: Senate okays \$85 billion for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan 2003: AT&T may be fined \$780,000 for calling Do-Not-Call listees	4 2003: Canadian citizen tells of his secret deportment by the US to Syria and how he endured 10 months of torture in a Syrian prison	5 2000: Nader speaks to 7,500 at a rally in Washington DC 2002: Washington state's gas tax initiative, Referendum 51 fails	6 2003: Army drops charges against Army interrogator who sought counseling after he saw Iraqi man cut in half by US fire
7 2003: Iraqi doctors say J. Lynch wasn't raped 2003: In divorce case New Hampshire Supreme Court says gay sex is not adultery	8 2003: US troops sweep thru Iraqi neighborhoods blasting houses suspected of hiding insurgent w/ machine guns/heavy weapons	9 1998: Study reports female CEOs earn 68 cents for every \$ earned by male CEOs 2003: Nader to Democrats: <i>chronic whiners</i>	10 2003: In response to rising casualties in Iraq, Bush administration says 'nothing of value has ever been won without sacrifice'	11 2002: Saddam's son Oday announces he is agreement w/ Iraq accepting UN resolution mandating international arms inspectors	12 2003: Philadelphia Inquirer discloses CIA report warning growing # of Iraqis believe US occupation forces can be defeated	13 2003: France's Foreign Minister says ending US occupation and transferring power to Iraqis would stem guerrilla attacks
14 2002: Iraqi paper predicts troubles with the US have only begun 2003: Homeless WWII vet in wheelchair beat to death in Tacoma	15 2002: Cuba buys food from Black US farmers 2003: CIA: no evidence Hussein tried to transfer technology or weapons to terrorists	16 2003: US troops search 450 homes in Baghdad neighborhood 2003: Schwarzenegger takes oath of office as CA governor	17 2003: The Russian Orthodox Church suspends ties with US Episcopal Church over its consecration of a gay bishop	18 2003: Homeless numbers up 22% since February in Thurston 2003: Life-long Olympian Jocelyn Dohm dies at age of 85	19 2003: S African to distribute free HIV drugs to all who need it 2003: KFC ends ad campaign that claimed its chicken wholesome	20 2003: 100,000 protest Bush's visit to London 2003: Miami police fire rubber bullets, tear gas, stun guns against WTO protesters
21 1999: 3,000 protests human rights abuses by grads of the School of the Americas 2003: Car bombs explode in Iraq killing 16	22 2003: Medicare prescription drug bill narrowly passes the House after the longest roll call voted in the chamber's history	23 2003: 2 US soldiers from wrecked vehicle and beaten to death 2003: US has 10 days to lift steel tariffs or face WTO penalties	24 2003: Capt Yee says he was held in harsh conditions, barred from practicing his faith and deprived of his legal right to a speedy trial	25 2001: 100s of Taliban prisoners are killed in claimed prison riot 2003: Capt Yee is freed charges are dropped and new charges made	26 2003: Iraq's Shiite Muslim leadership declares its opposition to indirect elections for a provisional Iraqi administration next year	27 2003: Bush visits Baghdad airport for Thanksgiving dinner 2003: Janet McCloud, activist prominent in 1960s fish wars, dies
28 1997: Study: greenhouse gases threatens warm waters that keep Europe's climate mild, may send Europe into deep freeze	29 2003: Iraqis attack US convoy killing 2 2003: Colombian guerrilla commander: US personnel aiding gov. troops will be targeted	30 1999: Exxon and Mobil merge creating world's largest private owned oil company 2003: Bush repeals tariff on imported steel	You're free. And freedom is beautiful. And, uhh, you know, it'll take time to restore chaos, and order, but we -- but we will. - President George W Bush (responding to a reporter who asked what Bush's message to the Iraqi people was, Washington, DC, April 13, 2003)			

Taking It To the Streets

It's Not About the Election, It's About Democracy

by Ron Jacobs

It's time to be completely frank here. If George Bush and his cabal have their way, it won't matter who gets elected on November 2nd this year. Just like they did in 2000, these men and women will steal the election if they must stay in power. In order to understand that this is the case, one must toss any preconceptions they have about the Bush cabal and their belief in the US system, much less anything called democracy. George Bush and the organization behind him have no respect for the system of governance installed back in the 18th century by the founding fathers (even though it favors their class, skin color and gender over any other), nor do they give a rat's ass about democracy. In case the 2000 election fiasco did not convince you of this, their actions since Bush's inauguration should ram this reality home.

Once one accepts the fact that a greater potential for tyranny exists in the United States today than perhaps any other time in its history, then it's quite easy to take the next step and ask what can be done. It is my sincere belief that the only answer to such a question lies in taking it to the streets. The results of the court challenge in November 2000 by Al Gore's campaign prove only too well that the courts are not on the side of the

popular will any more than today's Republican Party. When they were asked to stop the ballot counting in Florida by the GOP, they did. Then, lo and behold, George Bush won the election by one vote in the Supreme Court. Without getting into all of the backhanding and incestuous relationships between the court and the current administration, suffice it to say that the whole deal was rigged from the get-go. Al Gore never

If we have no opportunity to vocalize our opinions in an electoral arena, then the only arena is the underground. While that might sound romantic, it sure doesn't make for much else.

had a chance once the popular vote (won by Gore) was ignored.

This call to action is not a call to support the Democrats. It is a call to the people of the US to support democracy in the USA. (Indeed, if John Kerry does assume the presidency in 2005, there's still going to be plenty to protest about, from the war to the economy). In virtually every other country where there is electoral fraud on the scope perpetrated in the 2000 US elections, the people of those countries protest in the streets. After the Bush-related manipulations of

Election 2000 became apparent to people in the United States, the only people protesting in the streets were paid GOP workers shipped in to Florida from around the country to demand that the fraudulent election stand. The rest of us were content to watch it on television. Left, liberal, moderate, traditional conservative-it didn't matter, we just watched as the tattered remnants of our democracy were shredded live on CNN. The revolution may not be televised, but the final takeover of our government by a reactionary tyranny may very well be.

This ain't a TV reality show. This is reality! Unless we the people pull this country back from the abyss of totalitarianism, no one will. Leftists, liberals, conservatives-every citizen and resident

representative politics, what with corporate dollars deciding everything from who gets to speak at the conventions to who gets the nomination, the fact of no elections would be worse. If we have no opportunity to vocalize our opinions in an electoral arena, then the only arena is the underground. While that might sound romantic, it sure doesn't make for much else.

So, what am I suggesting? Just something simple-practicing democracy. People in the United States who do not wish to lose the last vestige of their so-called rights-the right to vote and the right to speak out-should start planning now how they will react to any of the election scenarios being bandied about in our nation's public and private conversations. You know what they are: terrorist threat as an excuse to cancel or postpone the elections, computer voting machines being tampered with to change the results, disenfranchisement of voters due to computer list "mix-ups," electoral college manipulations that tip the vote, etc. If people think they have been cheated in the November election, they should take to the streets.

If they don't, they will have done a better job of destroying our dying democracy than even Josef Stalin could have. When democracy at the polls is denied, then the only place for it is in the streets.

Ron Jacobs is author of *The Way the Wind Blew: a history of the Weather Underground*, which has just been republished by Verso. Jacobs' essay on Big Bill Broonzy is featured in *CounterPunch's* new collection on music, art and sex, *Serpents in the Garden*. He can be reached at: rjacobs@zoo.uvm.edu.

OPD Use of Force

by Drew Hendricks

The Olympia Police have used TASERS 14 times in the Second Quarter of 2004, an average of two jolts per use, on 11 persons. These statistics are derived from a series of "Supervisors Checklists," released in late September, which detail the various uses of force against persons by the Olympia Police Department.

Of far more concern than the overall number, however, is the fact that just two officers were responsible for half of all 14 uses of the TASER. Jeffrey Jordan used his 'directed energy weapon' four times in three months, and Paul Bakala used his an additional 3 times. These were the same two first responders who killed Stephen Edwards in the parking lot of Bayview Thriftway in downtown Olympia, on November 7, 2002.

The documents also detail the mode of TASER use, including whether the weapons were used defensively, or for compliance - only 4 times of 14 were uses for defensive reasons, against just three persons. All of the other use of the TASER in 2nd Q 2004 were for compliance controls. The cases are:

04-2853 Pearce, TASE / Contact 4 jolts - for compliance.

Schaeffer, TASE / Contact 2 jolts - for compliance.

04-3186 Bakala, TASE / Shot 2 jolts - Defensive use.

04-3278 Jordan, TASE / Shot 2 jolts - Defensive use, followed by a use for compliance.

Cook, TASE/ Contact 1 jolt - for compliance.

04-3454 Hovda, TASE / Shot 3 jolts - for compliance.

04-3840 Jordan, TASE / Shot 2 jolts - for compliance.

04-4237 Bakala, TASE / Shot 1 jolts - for compliance. WHILE CHASING SUBJECT*

04-4432 Heinze, TASE/ Contact 1 jolts - for compliance.

04-4441 Bakala, TASE / Shot 2 jolts - for compliance. WHILE CHASING SUBJECT*

04-4547 Jordan, TASE / Shot 2 jolts - Defensive use, followed by a use for compliance.

Duncan, TASE / Shot 1 jolts - Defensive use.

04-4611 Evers, TASE/ Shot 2 jolts - for compliance.

04-4764 Jordan, TASE / Shot 2 jolts - for compliance.

*In February of 2004, Paul Bakala was nearly beaten to death in an alley by a subject he stopped by using a TASER. The person picked up his flashlight and had almost overcome Paul when he finally managed to transition to his pistol. The person had been trying to run away when he was TASED.



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Member Owned and Collectively Managed through Consensus Decision Making

Here's the problem:

It's the Electoral System!

by Blair Bobier

George W. Bush lost the popular vote in the 2000 election and was installed as president by a questionable party-line vote of the U.S. Supreme Court despite the illegal and widespread disenfranchisement of African American voters in Florida perpetrated by Jeb Bush and Katherine Harris. Rather than challenging or investigating these blatant banana republic shenanigans, the press and the Democrats decided that the greatest failure of the American electoral system in history was the fault of one individual: Ralph Nader.

The problem is an electoral system so unresponsive and irrelevant that it's boycotted by half of its potential users.

With Mr. Nader again seeking the presidency in 2004, the media and the incredibly shrinking Democratic Party have continued to overlook the obvious. The problem isn't having an accomplished consumer advocate or too many candidates in the race. No, here's the problem: It's the electoral system, stupid.

The problem is an electoral system which has allowed a president to take office with a minority of votes for the past three presidential elections in a row. The problem is an electoral system which forces voters to choose a candidate they really don't support because voting for the candidate of their choice would be a "wasted vote." The problem is an electoral system so unresponsive and irrelevant that it's boycotted by half of its potential users. Fortunately, for the citizens of the "world's greatest democracy," there are solutions.

If we were to use IRV for our presidential elections, the "spoiler" problem would be immediately eliminated and people would be free to vote for the candidate of their choice without concern that their vote might help elect a candidate they fear.

One solution is the voting method which has come to be known as Instant Runoff Voting, or IRV. Used to elect the president of Ireland, a variety of officeholders in Australia and approved by San Francisco voters for city-wide use there, Instant Runoff Voting deftly deals with multiple candidates and ensures that the winner of an election is supported by a majority of voters. It works like this: instead of voting for just one candidate, voters instead rank the candidates in order of preference. Their first choice candidate is number one, the second choice number two and so on. If any candidate receives a majority of first choice votes, that candidate has won and the election is over. If, however, no candidate receives an absolute majority of first choice votes, then the candidate with the fewest first choice votes is eliminated from the race and the ballots are counted again. This "second" round of voting, or runoff, is conducted auto-

matically. In the second round, the ballots cast for the eliminated candidate are scanned for their second choice votes and are awarded to the remaining candidates. This process of eliminating the last place candidate and recounting the ballots continues until one candidate receives a majority of the vote.

IRV is simple to use. All the voter has to do is rank the candidates in order of preference: 1, 2, 3. For local elections which currently require a runoff to produce a majority winner, IRV can save considerable amounts of money by eliminating the need for two separate and costly elections. If we were to use IRV for our presidential elections, the "spoiler"

problem would be immediately eliminated and people would be free to vote for the candidate of their choice without concern that their vote might help elect a candidate they fear. IRV would encourage strong issue-oriented candidacies and broaden the debate in our country since candidates would not only have to seek first choice votes, but would have to appeal to voters supporting other candidates for their second choice votes. This would discourage negative campaigning since a candidate wouldn't be likely to attract the second choice votes they might need to win an election if they "went negative" on another candidate.

With growing third parties and rising registration numbers of independent voters, it is clear that Americans want more choices at the ballot box. For far too long, Americans have been force-fed a two party diet. This, some might say, has

led to civil stagnation and a lack of innovation. With spiraling national debt, high unemployment and shrinking civil liberties, we could use some creative solutions. And certainly a country which embraces hundreds of channels of satellite television, scores of breakfast cereals and thirty one flavors of ice cream can handle more than two choices in the voting booth.

Published on Monday, February 23, 2004 by CommonDreams.org. Blair Bobier is the Media Director of Cobb '04, David Cobb's campaign for the Green Party's presidential nomination. Ralph Nader is Bobier's second choice for president. Contact Blair Bobier at www.bobierlaw.com.

DEMOCRATIZE THE USA!

Instant Runoff Voting in Washington State Initiative-318 needs your help

I-318, the initiative to the Legislature seeking Instant Runoff Voting, is still gathering signatures and soliciting volunteers for signature gathering. As the November election draws near, we hope that the persons working on presidential politics can take time in the last two months of the year to forge ahead with real electoral reform. We can still do this, but we still need your help. Go to www.IRVWA.org to sign up.

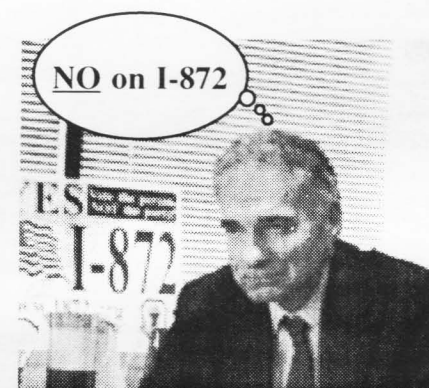
I-318 would eliminate the primary election altogether. Instead we have one Instant Runoff Voting General Election, where candidates would be ranked by the voters. (1, 2, 3, and so forth.) If, after all the 1st place choices are counted there is a majority of 50%, then you have your winner. However, if no candidate receives a majority then the candidate who received the least amount of votes is eliminated from the contest and the 2nd place choices of those eliminated candidates are now tallied in an "instant runoff". This process of eliminating the candidate with the least number of votes and redistributing their next highest choice back to the viable pool is repeated until a candidate receives a majority of votes. To see how this actually works visit the I-318 campaign's web site www.irvwa.org to watch a flash demonstration and to sign up to volunteer.

Toll free 1-866-IRVWAORG (1-866-478-9267)

Nader supports IRV

Ralph Nader was recently invited to a press conference at the WA State Grange headquarters in Olympia with the bazaar expectation by his "host", the Grange's head legislative lobbyist Toni McKinley, that he would endorse her current pet project, I-872. Nader quite predictably denounced the so-called "Louisiana" primary balloting system for what it is: just another corporate-backed Republicrat duopoly-reinforcing assault on democracy and instead endorsed Instant Runoff Voting, I-318.

McKinley had words for Mr. Nader and the whole episode is recounted with



considerable flair by Terrence Knight in *The Sitting Duck* along with commentary about Nader's presidential candidacy refreshingly devoid of the usual venom spewed by liberals and progressives alike. I don't always agree with Terrence, but this is a great article - check it out.

(Issue 33: Oct. 21 - Nov. 4) ~ Sandy Mayes

Palestinian solidarity

Apologies to Phan Nguyen

Last month, WIP published an article by Phan Nguyen, entitled "Palestinian solidarity is about human rights and reality on the ground - not abstract labels and identity issues."

The following conclusion should have been printed at the end of the article but was mistakenly omitted.

In grossly misinterpreting my statements, Shulman repeats the mistakes that many defenders of Israel make, however moderate they claim to be: where I criticize actions (verbs), she defends symbols and abstractions (nouns). Where I criticize *actions* of self-proclaimed moderates, Shulman is more concerned with reclaiming the *label* of Jewish Zionist moderate. When we criticize Israeli actions against the Palestinians, Shulman scolds us for not discussing Zionism and the legitimacy of Israel (see her sixth paragraph). She proudly declares herself pro-Israel and pro-Palestinian (abstractions) without explaining what such labels constitute (actions).

A defense of Palestinian rights becomes an attack on Jewish identity. It's never about *defending Palestinian rights*,

but always about *criticizing Israel*. The *New York Times Magazine* can have an article entitled "How to Talk About Israel," but not "How to Talk About Israel and Palestine."

Shulman defends Israel not by justifying its actions against the Palestinians (collective punishment, home demolitions, dispossession, land and resource theft), but by defending what Israel symbolizes to her (security, identity, sanctuary, democracy, spirituality).

With such loaded issues, we cannot hope to mend local tensions between activists and "concerned" Jews by engaging in debates on the Palestine-Israel conflict. Nor can we solve the Palestine-Israel conflict by having more community dialogues that end in group hugs. We must distinguish between how Jews are feeling concerned in Olympia and how Palestinians and Israelis are dying in the Middle East. If the issue is about Jewish fears of activism in Olympia, then we need to discuss race and identity. But if the issue is about the realities in Palestine and Israel, then let's talk about how we're working to end the occupation.

Phan Nguyen

Memorial for Colin Reese

Presented on Oct. 17, 2004

by Peter Bohmer



Colin Reese was someone whom I had some of my best two way conversations with about the causes of and solutions to economic injustice nationally and globally and how mainstream economics for the most rationalized poverty and the huge inequalities of income and wealth. Let me share some comments from the letter of recommendation I wrote for Colin in January 2004, when he applied to graduate study at the University of Massachusetts.

"I recommend Colin Reese enthusiastically and without any reservation whatsoever into the Ph.D program in economics at the University of Massachusetts. Colin is a serious and socially conscious student with excellent critical, analytical and quantitative skills. He is committed to using his study of economics to further economic justice, nationally and globally. He is a creative thinker with excellent research and writing skills. From close observation of him, he is already a very good teacher of economics, an extraordinary one for someone who has not yet started graduate school.

In fall and winter 2003-2004, Colin has been the teaching assistant in the political economy and social movements program of 75 students that I am teaching in and coordinating. As the program teaching assistant in economics, Colin has done a fantastic job. He has organized workshops on basic mathematics and statistics and also organized workshops on topics such as financial markets. Mainly, he has worked with students one on one and in small groups

teaching the main concepts. All the students I have spoken to, give Colin rave reviews and tell me how much they have learned in these tutorials and workshops."

Colin was very happy when he got accepted at U. Mass. and he decided to go there.

Colin went to the same high school, Capital High School, as my daughter and oldest son and I had known of him through them. He was well known in high school for his intelligence and sense of humor. We connected directly beginning September 11th, 2001. That evening I attended a meeting in downtown Olympia where we mourned the deaths that day and then discussed how to organize against the war we believed the U.S was

Colin had some personal demons that he tried to deal with, including using hard drugs. This did not stop him from showing solidarity with oppressed people and furthering and supporting economic justice and fundamental change.

about to wage as well as the increased repression and attacks that were likely to occur against Arab-Americans and Muslims. Colin participated and showed a lot of insight about community organizing in his perceptive comments on how to reach out beyond the activist and student communities and in his ideas on how to get favorable coverage of an anti-war position in the local media. After September, 2001, Colin and I had many discussions on the political economy of oil and its relation to public and foreign policy, and on strategies for justice and for radical change. I always came away from these discussions appreciative of how much I learned from Colin.

He was active in the Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (OMJP), a community group that has been and still is active against the U.S. war against Iraq, against the Israeli occupation of Palestine and for economic and social justice in the United States. For example, in the summer of 2003, Colin and I were speakers at a community symposium organized by OMJP on U.S. foreign policy, oil and the war in Iraq. Colin gave an outstanding presentation on the continuities and changes in U.S. foreign policy, before and after the 2000 presi-

dential elections based on his solid research on neoconservatism and the Project for a New American Century.

Colin had some personal demons that he tried to deal with including using hard drugs. This did not stop him from showing solidarity with oppressed people and furthering and supporting economic justice and fundamental change. For example, in Olympia he gave many of his books to prisoners and spent many days and nights packing books for the local Books for Prisoners Program, which sends thousands of books to those incarcerated. While attending U. Mass graduate school, which he began in September 2004, with his partner, Maya, he helped organize a needle exchange program in Holyoke, Massachusetts, where he was living.

As many of you know, Colin had been lovers for three years with Rachel Corrie,

who was killed by the Israeli military on March 16, 2003 as she was trying to protect a home in Rafah in Gaza, Palestine from being demolished by the Israeli Army. At the time of Rachel Corrie's murder, Colin and Rachel were very close friends although not lovers. Colin gave a moving talk at Rachel's memorial on March 22nd, 2003. He said:

"We have all watched the light of Rachel's life grow so much brighter by the countless people across the globe who now consider her family. Rachel's community has become global, and I am so happy for that because I believe when a person dies, love for them is like a light welcoming them home... they are able to be anywhere someone that loved them is and they are able to experience everything that someone who loved them has experienced and I see Rachel so joyful at the infinite possibilities she has before her now. She spans the globe, and at the same time is a part of us all."

Colin was perhaps also talking about how he would like to be remembered. He touched a lot of people with his compassion and his ideas. Partially inspired by Rachel, he was active against the Israeli occupation of Palestine, for example showing movies and leading discussions

at the Evergreen State College on the immense human costs to Palestinians of the Israeli occupation of Gaza and the West Bank.

Rachel's murder affected Colin strongly. Rachel Corrie was an incredibly good person and like most of us, ordinary and extraordinary. Colin did not like the attempt by some to make a saint of her. He talked about Rachel as a human being with incredible strengths and a strong commitment to act "in solidarity with the oppressed people of the world," but also with human frailties. That is also how Colin should be remembered.

Colin loved to teach economics, to explain and criticize neoclassical economics, and to teach radical political economy. He was on his way to becoming a great teacher. Colin committed suicide September 25th, 2004 in Holyoke, Massachusetts. I am one of many, many people who mourn his death. We include but are not limited to his family, his fiancée, Maya, his friends he grew up with in Olympia and those he met later on, the 300 students at Evergreen he tutored and taught economics and math



to, his Narcotics Anonymous (NA) community, his teachers, and the activist community. There was also a memorial for Colin at U. Mass. on October 7th.

We cannot bring Colin back to life but we can learn some lessons from his life and tragic death. Get to know the people you care about more deeply, reach out to others, care for each other and work for a different and just economic system. Take this moment to reflect on this troubled, talented and politically conscious person named Colin Reese.

Colin Reese presente!

Peter Bohmer is a faculty member at The Evergreen State College.

Derail CAFTA: Northwest Tour

* Portland * Olympia

* Tacoma * Seattle

November 7 -19, 2004

Evergreen and Olympia will have an exciting opportunity to participate in an educational tour by Central American and Mexican leaders who are working against CAFTA, the Central America Free Trade Agreement, which would be as disastrous for the people of Central America as NAFTA was for the people of the US and Mexico. Two very strong women labor leaders will be in Olympia on November 16 and 17, Tuesday and Wednesday: Carmelina Contreras de Guzman, SUTTEL (Telecommunications Workers in El Salvador) and Angelica Morales, Lead Organizer, CIO

(Border Women's Workers Committee, Piedras Negras, Coahuila, Mexico).

WHEN AND WHERE

Tuesday, November 16, Traditions Fair Trade Café, 7 PM

Wednesday, November 17, Evergreen at 12 Noon-1:30PM, in the First Floor of the Library Lobby

The Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) extends the failed NAFTA model of "free trade" into Central America. For US workers, CAFTA could be the next step in corporate globalization, which increases corporate power, profits, and mobility at the expense of democracy, freedom, union

jobs and prevailing wages. In Central America, CAFTA will destroy the small farming economy, devastate indigenous communities, create sweatshop cities run by supra-national corporations, and increase poverty across the board—just like NAFTA did to Mexico.

CAFTA was negotiated in secret in 2003 and signed in May 2004 by George Bush and the Presidents of El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, Costa Rica, Guatemala. To take effect Congress and the Senate must pass CAFTA un-amended, though massive popular pressure throughout Central America and the United States has stalled the legislation everywhere. We must act decisively now to DERAIL CAFTA FOREVER.

The Derail CAFTA Northwest Tour features voices of resistance to "Free Trade" from El Salvador, Mexico, and the Pacific Northwest (which lost 46,401 jobs to NAFTA since 1994). We will

speak about the impacts of free trade in our countries, create cross-border solidarity, and mobilize direct action to defeat the global corporate agenda. Venceremos! United, we will win.

For more information: 360.867-6055

SOUTH SOUND

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Green Pages is a forum for individuals and organizations concerned about the integrity of our environment and the quality of life in our community.

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Part Two of that lively Noam Chomsky interview

Is the U.S. a terrorist state?

by Evan Solomon

Part Two of a CBC Hot Type transcript: Noam Chomsky "9/11" - interview April 16, 2002.

ES: How do you respond to the following attitude: We don't want to live with them, we don't want to negotiate with them, we must destroy them, make war against the Taliban, justify the war against the Al Aqsa brigades, we see the faces of our enemies and we should do anything to root them out.... How do you respond to that?

bombing another country and putting millions of people at the risk of starvation, that's not the way to deal with crimes.

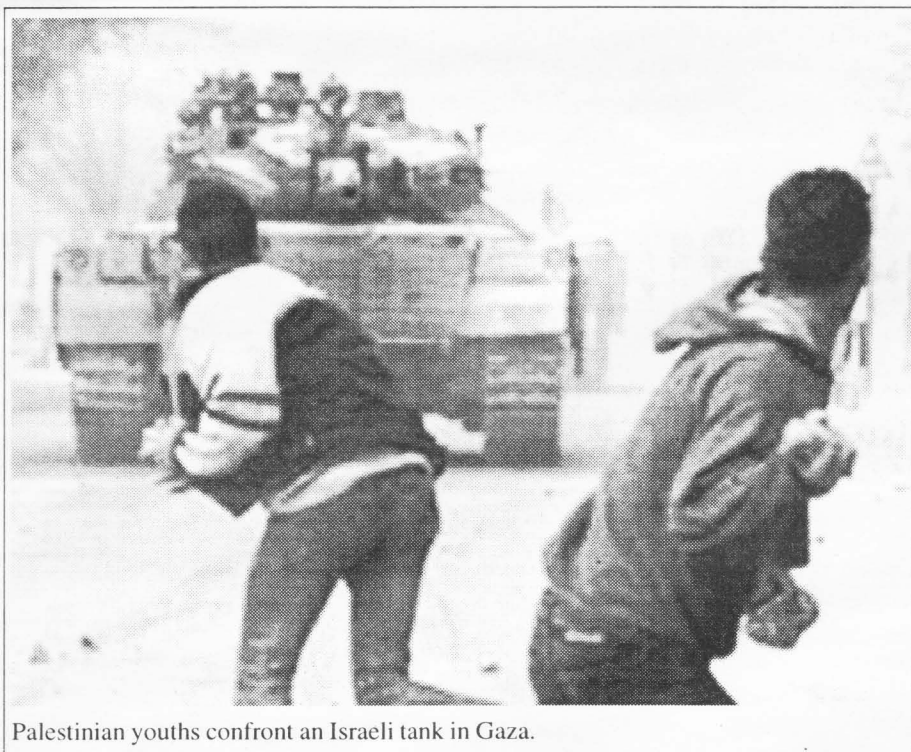
NC: When the U.S. was condemned for international terrorism in Nicaragua, and then and then vetoed the security council and dismissed the condemnation by the will of court, of course, and then escalated the crimes and vetoed a security council resolution calling on it to observe national law, the right reaction for Nicaragua was not to say, "we have seen the enemy and have to destroy them, so therefore, let's set off bombs in Washington." The right response was not to reproduce this ridiculous, childish

Israel, which produces no helicopters, used U.S. helicopters to attack - there was no Palestinian fire at this time - civilian complexes, killing about a dozen people and wounding several dozen. Clinton reacted to that by making the biggest deal in a decade - to send Israel new military helicopters. ~ Noam Chomsky

NC: I respond to that by saying that there are many evil forces in the world. If we want to stop atrocities, I think it's a great idea to reduce the level of atrocities and violence around the world. The easiest way to do it, simple, is to stop participating in it. If we stop participating

rhetoric.

NC: And nobody believes that it was. But if it's wrong for them, it's wrong for us. Again, by elementary moral standards. So, we should ask what's right for them, and what should be right for us. And I think, they couldn't do what



Palestinian youths confront an Israeli tank in Gaza.

in it, we will already reduce the levels of atrocities and violence enormously.

NC: And if we can ever reach the moral level, minimum moral level, of terminating our own massive participation in atrocities, then we can move to another question of what we do about the atrocities of others. And I think there, I think it's right to deal with them. So, for example, in the case of... I don't want to go off in hysterical rhetoric about we've seen the enemy and this and that, that's childish games that you see in fairy tales.

NC: If we're talking about the real world again, we're back to what Michael Howard was talking about. Yes, there is an enemy. There are people who carry out crimes against humanity. And there are ways to deal with crimes. Not by

was right for them because we blocked it, we're too powerful. But we could do what was right for them and we never even considered it. We're too powerful. But we could do what was right for them and we never even considered it.

NC: Cause we don't rise to that minimal moral level. And unless we do, we have no right to talk about good policy, bad policy, right or wrong.

ES: We don't have the right to even talk about it?

NC: Of course not. If you can't rise to the most elementary moral level, you shouldn't even talk about it.

ES: So there's no real policy -

NC: Yes, there is. See, I admire right-wing fanatics who come out straight and say, "Look, I have the power, and

nobody's going to stop me, I'll do what I want." That's admirable. They're honest. OK. And in fact, we have two choices, really. We really have two simple choices. Either we can say, look I'm going to be willing to enter the moral agreement. I'm going to be willing to rise to the most minimal moral level.

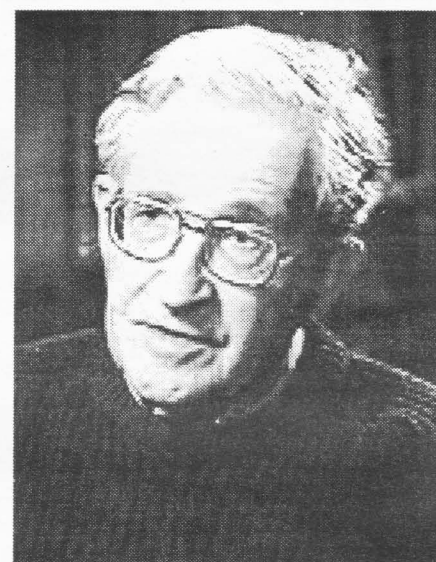
NC: That of the gospels, in fact. I'm going to be willing to do that and in that case, I'm going to apply to myself the same standards I apply to others. That's one choice. The other choice is simple. I'm a Nazi. I've got the force. I've got the power. I'll do whatever I want. If you get in my way, I'll smash you.

ES: But isn't it a little more complicated? I mean, look -

NC: That's the choice.

ES: Can't it be two rights?

NC: Can be, yeah, there can. And what do we, let's take a look at the Middle East, let's take a look at facts. The facts are, for 35 years, there has been a harsh, brutal, military operation. There has not been a political settlement.



and recognized borders.

NC: That was January 1976. OK, that was actually in accord with official U.S. policy. Yeah, except for one thing. It called for a Palestinian State in the territories - Israel wouldn't leave the occupied territories. That was vetoed... it was supported by the Arab states, it was supported by the PLO, supported by Europe.

ES: Before they even recognized Israel as a state, though.

NC: This was to exist as a state within secure and recognized borders. Nobody talked about recognizing the new Pales-

There was a meeting at Geneva of the high-contracting parties of the 4th-Geneva convention, which has unanimously held for 35 years that it applies to Israel. The meeting condemned the Israeli settlements as illegal, condemned the list of atrocities - willful destruction of property, murder, trials, torture. What happened in that meeting? The U.S. boycotted it. Therefore, the media refused to publish it. ~ Noam Chomsky

The reason that there has not been a political settlement is the United States, unilaterally, has blocked it for 25 years. In 1970 - in opposition -

NC: The current situation is one of 35 years of military occupation. Just recently, Saudi Arabia produced a plan, highly praised plan for political settlement. The majority of the American population supports it. The majority of the population also thinks the United States ought to be more active in the Middle East. They don't know that that's a contradiction in terms. The reason that's a contradiction in terms is the following:

NC: In the Saudi Arabia plan is a repetition of a series of proposals which

tinian state, nobody talked about recognizing Israel...

NC: Look, is there a possible political settlement today? Has there been one for the last 25 years? Is it supported by the entire world, including the majority of the American people? The answer to that question is yes.

NC: There is a political settlement that has been supported by virtually the entire world, including the Arab states, the PLO, Europe, Eastern Europe, Canada...

ES: Didn't Barak put that on the table?

NC: No, he did not.

ES: He did not?

NC: What was also supported by the majority of the American people, it has just been reiterated by Saudi Arabia. The

The security council tried to pass a resolution calling for what everyone recognized to be the obvious means for reducing terror, namely sending international monitors. That's a way of reducing terror. The U.S. vetoed it. ~ NC

go back to 1976 when the UN security council debated a resolution calling for a settlement in accord with the Saudi plan to state settlement on the internationally recognized borders.

NC: With arrangements to guarantee the rights of every state in the nation to exist in peace and security within secure

U.S. has unilaterally blocked it for 25 years. What Barak put on the table, the population doesn't know this, because people like the Western media in Canada in the United States don't tell them. Like, you can check and see how often, you for example, and others, have reported what I just said. Don't bother checking.

(Continued on page 11)

Reflections on Abu Ghraib

by Marco Rosaire Rossi

This past August, the well-respected medical journal *The Lancet* published a report exposing the contribution of doctors to the rape and torture within the Abu Ghraib. The report, written by Professor Steven Miles of the University of Minnesota's Bioethics Center, revealed that military doctors, medics, and nurses at Abu Ghraib grossly violated medical ethics and international treaties on human rights.

"The medical professionals failed to provide basic medical health care to prisoners. And not only were they aware of human rights abuses, they were actually complicit in them," Miles said in an interview on August 19th. "Army officials stated that a physician and a psychiatrist helped design, approve, and monitor interrogations at Abu Ghraib."

The report cites many examples of "medically monitored interrogation," and other examples of misconduct such as doctors altering death certificates to cover up torture, and even manipulating death scenes. In one instance, a medic inserted an intravenous catheter into the corpse of prisoner who died under torture to give the appearance that the victim died of "natural causes" while in the hospital.

For those who have been following the Abu Ghraib scandal closely, the awareness of the medical profession's involvement in the torture is just another knot on a long string of horrific events to occur during the US occupation of Iraq. Miles believes, and it seems very reasonable at this point to assume, that the abuse by medical professionals were not isolated incidents but part of an overall design. It occurred not only in prisons in

Iraq, but also in prisons in Afghanistan. Miles is not alone in his conviction. After coming back from Afghanistan, the Italian General Francesco Spagnuolo said prisoners there "are beaten and treated worse than cockroaches."

Since the 1960s, the CIA has been developing a form of torture known as "no-touch" torture. This type of torture does not rely on brutal force, but rather on psychological and medical treatment. In "no-touch" torture, agents are encouraged to use sleep and sensory deprivation, psychological humiliation, and verbal intimidation; all of which are in-

rious in Auschwitz for having the special responsibility of injecting prisoners, including small children, with phenolic acid. Because his interest lay more on experimenting with rabbits than killing Jews, Klehr insisted that he perform the injections "two at a time." After all, it was a more efficient and practical method. This account is chilling similar to the "professional" manner that medics approached the torturing of prisoners in Abu Ghraib. Reading the reports of the "medically monitored interrogations" has an eerie resemblance Nazi actions. In one example, prisoners were routinely beaten until they became unconscious. The doctors would then enter the room, work to revive the unconscious prisoner, then

little hope. It is a wonder what has happened to those revolutionary humanistic ideals articulated so clearly in indigenous societies and various writings during the European Enlightenment: that humans are moral animals, that they constantly search for greater truth, and that there is a cooperative interdependence among the species as a whole.

If people are to continue to preserve these humanistic ideals and be conscious of the horrors that exist in the world today, then they are reasonably left with one conclusion about the incidents at Abu Ghraib and human nature at large. All people, at all times, are attempting to do good no matter how horrible the consequences of their actions may be, and the mayhem and suffering caused in the world is not out of sadistic intentions but a narrow assumption of the possibility for peace.

In *Wichita Vortex Sutra*, Allen Ginsberg's famous protest poem against the war in Vietnam, Ginsberg wrote the line "I call all Powers of imagination" as a response to the "experts" in the press who proclaimed that peace was not an option for Vietnam. Ginsberg was challenging those skeptics to imagine the possibility of peace through peaceful action. This challenge to the narrow thinking that believes peace can only be brought by more military expansion, more surveillance, more encroachments on civil liberties, more bombing and air raids, is the challenge that social justice activists are facing in ending the war in Iraq and creating a free society. Social justice activists must hold onto each person's intention to "do no harm" and expand the potential in it until it reflects a reality where people truly do no harm, where security does not become a synonym with torture.

The movement in this direction involves no longer engaging in the shallow politics of army officials and administrations, which are constantly attempting to blame someone else while passing the buck on their own responsibility. Instead, it involves focusing on the genuine politics of people by meeting the needs of the Iraqis, holding the perpetrators of these acts to accountability, and realizing that for both America and Iraq democracy will only come about through democratic actions from within those countries. In which case, peace will not only be the soil that will nourish the tree of democracy but it will also become the fruit that blossoms on its limbs. With hope, the occupation of Iraq and the horrors of Abu Ghraib will not be another long movement of terror for human history, but a turning point where the people of the world have said "enough! For the sake of peace, we must call all powers of imagination."

Social justice activists must hold onto each person's intention to "do no harm" and expand the potential in it until it reflects a reality where people truly do no harm, where security does not become a synonym with torture.

tended to make the victims of the torture feel responsible for the acts that are being waged against them. However, as often occurs, the situation in Abu Ghraib rapidly moved from "no-touch" torture, to sexual humiliation, to rape and murder. Essentially, the whole situation plunged in a downward spiral transforming Abu Ghraib into a horror similar to those perpetuated by Nazis during World War II.

In principle a death camp like Auschwitz and the prison Abu Ghraib are very similar, however different in practice. The contrast between such criminal acts by medic like Klehr, a medical orderly for the SS, and what the medical doctors in Abu Ghraib have done is in degree, not essence. Klehr became noto-

leave so the soldiers could continue to beat the person. The belief is that a conscious person feels more pain and is more willing to talk than an unconscious person; thus medical treatment facilitates a more efficient and practical method of torture.

For those who have studied history, particularly the nature of rogue and brutal regimes, the involvement of medical professionals in this type of behavior is expected. The degree of violence we have seen in the Middle East cannot happen without complacency by noble professionals such as those in the medical field. However, despite the cynicism toward professionals to do justice in an unjust structure, their actions still retain an element of wonder. Doctors and those in the medical profession live by a certain code of ethics. Unlike a soldier, whose first priority is to defend the country, a doctor upholds the principle "do no harm" above all else. An interesting point to consider when trying to unravel the psychological reasons why American doctors would be willing, in fact eager, to commit the crimes that they have inflicted against the Iraqi people.

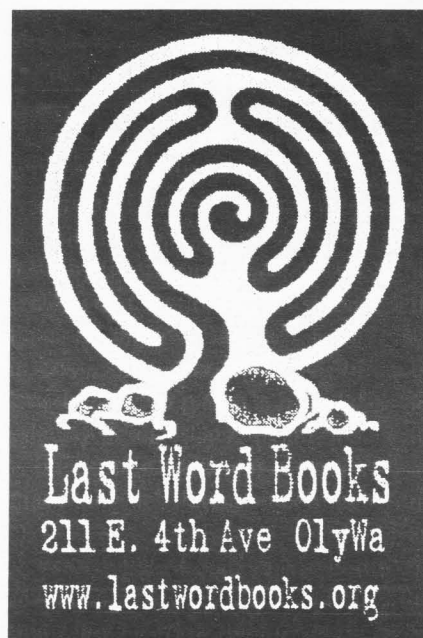
When historians look back on the US occupation of Iraq, they will look back not with amazement but with questions. Just as in World War II and the United States imperialist adventures in Southeast Asia, historians will look back on Iraq and ask "why?" Why was the world's greatest superpower so eager and willing to destroy and humiliate a nation which had never attacked it, had no weapons of mass destruction, and had at most a small fraction of its resources and power?

In a geopolitical sense the occupation may be able to be explained by the forces of global capitalism, oil, strategic support for Israel, and a grab for power away from US rivals, but these reasons cannot account for the torture at Abu Ghraib. The United States can suck oil from Iraq without systematic rape, yet it happens and it happens with the help of those who have vowed to "do no harm."

It is difficult, especially in these tumultuous times of reactionary policies, to retain a humanistic perspective. The knowledge that American doctors in Iraq are helping to kill prisoners, while their colleagues back home are telling people arrested under the PATRIOT ACT: "if I was in charge, I would execute every one of you," could leave a person with



Evil Is As Evil Does



Keep Democracy Now! on TCTV

by Sandia Slaby

Edited by WIP



Media Island International (MII) is going to relieve you of having to find time for yet one more fundraising event or from baking any more pies for auction. We are simply asking for donations to support our sponsorship of Pacifica Network's "Democracy Now!" on Thurston Community TV (TCTV). For those of you who are not familiar with "Democracy Now!", it is a one hour daily radio & TV production of independent, non-corporate, world & national news and public affairs. The program is grassroots and progressive in perspective; much of the information and many of the voices we hear and see on DN! are not heard or seen on other live media sources, even the public media networks.

The partnership between TCTV and MII is simple and complex at the same time. Thurston Community TV requires a local non-profit's sponsorship before airing any 'imported' show (one pro-

duced outside Thurston County). Media Island is the local non-profit which sponsors the airing of "Democracy Now!" on TCTV.

DN! comes to TCTV via Free Speech TV off of the DISH Network. Media Island needs community support (dollars) to finance the yearly commercial subscription for that downlink.

This collaboration between TCTV & MII allows more than 53,000 Thurston County households to have cable access to "Democracy Now!"

It is unfortunate that community TV requires cable for access, because the cost of a cable subscription makes cable itself, and thus community TV, prohibitive for many people. However, the cost of actually broadcasting over the air is a great deal more, which TCTV (and most

don't have a TV). I also contribute to Media Island International because when more people get a broader view of conditions around the world, I feel more hopeful about those conditions being improved. If this community resource is of value to you, consider contributing.

IMPORTANT: \$600 is needed this year, as we have a negative balance from last year; usually the cost is \$540.00 per year. All funds donated for this project will be spent only for securing the airing of DN! on TCTV in the coming years. A very small group of people has contributed to this effort in the last two years. Join us and let's expand this support base if you value this effort and its results; many small contributions would be great. Please consider a regular contribution in September, so we will know what support we have.

To keep "Democracy Now!" on TCTV for a third year, please send checks to:

This collaboration between TCTV & MII allows more than 53,000 Thurston County households to have cable access to "Democracy Now!". Important: \$600 is needed this year.

community TV stations) cannot afford. "Democracy NOW!" is an important resource to me and many other members of this community who value non-corporate, progressive programming: information and analysis that the corporate media won't give us. Thus, I financially support the sources from which it comes by being a member of our local community radio station AND our community TV station (even though I

Media Island International, (earmarked for "DN! /TCTV"!!!), and mail to: MII, POB 7204, Olympia, WA. 98507 Contributions are tax deductible.

And please spread the word that "Democracy Now!" airs on TCTV at 4:00 PM weekdays - Channel 22 / 29 in Thurston County.

(See back cover for all local DN! scheduling.)

For further information, call 866-4561.

**To keep "Democracy Now!" on TCTV please send checks to:
Media Island International
(earmarked for DN! /TCTV), and mail to:
MII, PO Box 7204, Olympia, WA 98507
Contributions are tax deductible.**

Who Hast by Waning Grown?

Where in this silence any reason to live,
in still, coldness of these hospice tombs?

"Where the wave of moonlight glosses
The dim grey sands with light,
Mingling hands and mingling glances
Till the moon has taken flight;"

Richard Cheney will lie here someday,
skin bloated, pale and grey, his neck
arched back, toothless mouth gaped open
mocking his airs, rasping in and out,
unconscious metronome pulsing tones of
dripped infusions gone obstructed,
and pacemaker's innocent shocks.

The media will have his biopic waiting
for the call, his friends gathered,
waiting for the call, his associates,
those few who still think of him.
Waiting for that mechanical beat to cease.

George Bush will sit by that pale window,
a shut-in, reading the same paper, waiting
for an orderly to glide him to his supper,
tasteless and bland. He will have no more
appetite, and no memory recalled of those
days

long ago, in a far, far more peaceful world,
when he stood, and smirked, "Let's roll."

"Turning and turning in the widening gyre
The falcon cannot hear the falconer;
Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold;
Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world,
The blood-dimmed tide is loosed, and
everywhere
The ceremony of innocence is drowned."

Peter Torbay



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to the Chelsea Fund for Education to:



WA State CP
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Seattle, WA 98124

WIP Secret Cafe

A great big
THANK YOU

to all of you who came
to our Secret Cafe in
September.

It was a wonderfully
festive event and after
expenses we cleared
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A Brief Look at Cuba's Hardship

by Greg Rosenthal

Prior to January 1, 1959, which marks the triumph of the radical nationalist Cuban Revolution, Cuba's economy was completely reliant on the United States. U.S. corporations controlled large land holdings and invested heavily in sugar production, tourism, and mining. In short, the U.S. dominated Cuban markets, trade, and financed their industries. The U.S. military reinforced this relationship of capitalist dependency through direct and indirect violent repression.

This relationship was radically altered after 1959. Revolutionary Cuba under the leadership of Fidel Castro directly challenged U.S. neocolonial and imperial dominance over the island. Cuba nationalized millions of dollars worth of U.S. corporate wealth in an attempt to restructure the economy to benefit the Cuban population. A massive campaign was undertaken to provide universal education and healthcare to all Cubans. In the ensuing years, many economic and social experiments were devoted to the likes of housing construction, full employment, and land redistribution.

Like the hyperpower had done many times before to peoples throughout the Americas, the U.S. would make the Cuban people suffer through economic and military policies. This occurred for three reasons: 1) as a response to defiance of U.S. dominance in the region; 2) the loss of profits to U.S. based multi-nationals; and 3) to stem the threat of what Noam Chomsky calls the "demonstration effect"—the idea that Cuba might actually succeed in providing health care, education, and food to its people autonomous of the U.S. economic 'model' of capitalism, and encourage other countries to emulate them.

Former president John F. Kennedy explained succinctly the detrimental effect the "demonstration effect" has on U.S. policy goals: "the very existence of his regime [Castro's government]...represented a successful defiance of the U.S., a negation of our whole hemispheric policy of almost half a century".

Cuba's relationship with the Soviet Union, based on an early model of "fair trade", was disingenuously used by the U.S. during the Cold War to justify its aggression against Cuba. In truth, this was nothing more than a calculated deception. After the collapse of the Soviet Union (1989-1991), the U.S. persisted in reeking havoc, tightening the embargo not once, but twice.

To this day the U.S. persists in its obsession with the small island; a series of new measures by the current Bush Administration are motivated by the same fears JFK mentioned over thirty years ago. The new measures, in effect, tighten the 45-year-old blockade, and increase the aggression to subvert and destroy the Cuba.

The U.S. has a brutal, drawn out history of consistently attempting to undermine the Cuban Revolution through military means. Possibly less understood in the U.S. are the economic sanctions unilaterally imposed on Cuba by the U.S. - which will be the focus of the remainder of this essay.

The U.S. implemented the first direct economic measures against Cuba in 1960 when then president Dwight D. Eisenhower imposed a partial trade em-

bargo and cut 700,000 tons of sugar from the U.S. quota. In 1961, president Kennedy eliminated the remaining U.S. sugar quota with Cuba.

These measures had a profound effect on the Cuban economy. Sugar was a monoculture in Cuba, and thus its primary means of economic survival. Prior to the draconian measures taken by Eisenhower and Kennedy, U.S. markets were Cuba's lifeline.

Adding insult to injury, diplomatic relations were severed and an imposed ban restricted U.S. travel to Cuba. In June of 1961, a full trade embargo was declared, and a year later Cuba was expelled from the Organization of American States (OAS). Cuba was denied loans from the IMF, U.S. banks, and other banks in the OAS, denying Cuba access to much needed hard currency

We have an obligation to oppose the barbaric blockade, all U.S. aggression and funding against Cuba, and demand the normalization of relations and the right to self-determination for Cubans.

for internal development. The island was forced to seek out new markets for trade. In the bi-polar atmosphere of the Cold War era, having been isolated from the 'West', Cuba turned 'East'.

Cuba endured the economic sanctions by strengthening its relationship with the Soviet Union and Eastern-bloc through trade agreements based on 'fair trade'. The trade relationship lasted up until 1991, marking the collapse of the Soviet-bloc. In effect, Cuba spiraled into an extreme economic crisis, dubbed the 'Special Period', a misnomer for dire conditions for the Cuban people. Cuban trade with the Soviet Union fell by 89% between 1989 and 1994, causing food, medical, and material shortages. Additionally, Cuba's emersion into the competitive global capitalists market prompted Cuba to make structural reforms to the economy. Along with severe shortages, production and consumption decreased, blackouts were frequent, disease became more wide spread, and unemployment and underemployment increased.

During this period of unimaginable despair, U.S. elites had but one goal in mind—to seize the opportunity to push Cuba over the edge. In 1992, Congress along with President Clinton passed a bill put forth by Democrat Robert Torricelli, called the "Cuban Democracy Act", further tightening the embargo. The act bans foreign-based U.S. subsidiaries from trading with Cuba; prohibits foreign ships that dock at Cuban ports from entering U.S. harbors for 180 days, and allows for the seizure of foreign ships that trade with Cuba if they enter U.S. waters; and. It has been estimated that 90% of this lost trade and aid has been in the form of much needed foodstuffs and medicine.

Cubans have accurately named U.S. sanctions a blockade for its all-encompassing effects hampering third countries and institutions from conducting normal relations with Cuba.

The reach of the blockade was strengthened and further internationalized in 1996 by the "Cuban Liberty and Democracy Solidarity Act" better known as the Helms-Burton Law. The Act seeks to deter foreign investment in Cuba by demanding compensation for former U.S. owners of now nationalized land or

property, from nationals or states that benefit from this property. Furthermore, the Act reads the U.S. will lift its sanctions on Cuba under the conditions that Fidel and Raul Castro are no longer part of the Cuban government and when Cuba pursues "democracy" and a "free" capitalist economy.

The international community at the UN has consistently condemned the U.S. imposed blockade as a human rights catastrophe, which, without fail, has been repeatedly silenced by U.S. veto power.

On May 6, 2004, George Bush announced the latest set of measures against Cuba, which were officially implemented June 30, 2004. Washington's latest aggression against Cuba is detailed in an over 400-page document, constructed by the Reagan-era think tank: "Commission for Assistance to a Free Cuba". I will highlight a few of the stated measures:

Over the next two years, up to \$59

million is to be spent promoting 'democracy' in Cuba:

- \$36 million for "democracy-building" and the support of political opposition groups—meaning well-known terrorist groups based in Miami and Cuba.

- \$18 million to fly planes into Cuban airspace to jam Cuban airwaves with Radio and TV Marti—U.S. based radio and TV broadcasting falsifications about Cuba and the Cuban government—a violation of international law.

- \$5 million to promote and disseminate anti-Cuban propaganda abroad as well as fund conferences concerning U.S. policies to overthrow the Cuban government.

- Cubans living in the U.S. have been restricted as to how often they can visit their families and the amount of money they can send.

- The definition of who is family has been limited to "immediate" family—grandparents, parents, siblings, and children—negating Latin American cultural ideals of family. Aunts, Uncles, cousins etc. are restricted from ever seeing their families again.

- Family members are only allowed to travel to Cuba once every 3 years, whereas before it was once a year.

- Now only family members can send money to Cuban relatives and are further limited in how much they can send. This money sent into Cuba, called remittances, provides much needed hard currency to supplant the meager Cuban wage. Remittances are the largest flux of capital inflow into the economy after tourism.

- Educational travel is further limited.

- All primary educational travel has been cancelled (high school and below)

- Undergraduate and graduate schools are limited to travel no shorter than a semester, in conjunction with the condition that "the program directly supports U.S. policy goals."

The majority of the 450-page document goes on to lay out a post-Castro structure of government and economy, based on "free-markets", "free-trade", and "democracy".

On May 14, in response to Bush's speech announcing the latest aggression toward Cuba, millions of Cubans took the streets to display their unity and denunciation of the U.S. government's imperial policies. Fidel along with many other Cubans see these measures as preemptive to invasion as was done in Iraq.

The new measures are intended to and surely will make the Cuban economy scream, and bring much suffering to the Cuban people. The hope of the U.S. government is that the conditions in Cuba will become so intolerable that Cubans will retract their support of the Cuban government.

Regardless of what you believe Cuba has or has not done, is or is not, those of us living in the U.S. And in our fight for justice abroad, we must always return to our communities and make connections between our common causes and struggles against a power structure that seeks to benefit the few at the expense of many. In this way we are truly in solidarity with the people of Cuba and the world as part of a growing global movement for social and economic justice, working against a common system of oppression and toward emancipation and the full realization of human potential.

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(Continued from page 7)

The answer is zero.

NC: The Barak proposal in Camp David, the Barak-Clinton proposal, in the United States, I didn't check the Canadian media, in the United States, you cannot find a map, which is the most important thing, of course, check in Canada, see if you can find a map. You go to Israel, you can find a map, you go to scholarly sources, you can find a map. Here's what you find when you look at a map.

NC: You find that this generous magnanimous proposal guaranteed, provided Israel with a salient, east of Jerusalem, which was established primarily by the labor government of Clinton in order to bisect the West Bank. That salient goes almost to Jericho, breaks the West Bank into two cantons, then there's a second salient to the North, going to the Israeli settlement of Ariel, which bisects the Northern part into two cantons.

NC: So, we've got three cantons in the West Bank, virtually separated. All three of them are separated from a small area of East Jerusalem which is the center of Palestinian commercial and cultural life and of communications, so you have four cantons, all separated from the West, from Gaza, so that's five cantons, all surrounded by Israeli settlements, infrastructure, development and so on, which also incidentally guarantee Israel control of the water resources.

NC: This does not rise to the level of South Africa 40 years ago when South Africa established the Bantustans. That's the generous, magnanimous offer. And there's a good reason why maps weren't shown. Because as soon as you look at a map, you see it.

ES: All right, but let me just say, Arafat didn't even bother putting a counter-proposal on the table.

NC: Oh, that's not true.

ES: They negotiated that afterwards.

NC: That's not true.

ES: I guess my question is, if they don't continue to negotiate -

NC: They did. That's false.

ES: That's false?

NC: Not only is it false, but not a single participant in the meetings says it. That's a media fabrication -

ES: That Arafat didn't put a counter-proposal -

NC: Yeah, they had a proposal, they had a proposal. They proposed the international consensus, which has been accepted by the entire world, the Arab states, the PLO. They proposed a settlement which is in accordance with an overwhelming international consensus. And is blocked by the United States.

ES: If you don't talk -

NC: Yeah, they did talk. They talked. They proposed that.

ES: Once they walked out of Camp David,

NC: They didn't walk out of Camp David -

ES: Both Camps -

NC: No, no, both sides walked out of Camp David.

ES: All right, once Camp David disbands, the radicals take over the process, my question is, how do -

NC: No, no, the radicals didn't take over the process.

ES: You don't think that the Sharon, the right-wing Israeli -

NC: No, Barak stayed in power for months. Barak cancelled it. That's how it ended.

ES: OK. The problem that people look at now in the Middle East is they say it's

spun out of control because the radicals are on both sides now.

NC: No, there's three sides. You're forgetting the United States. The radicals in the United States who have blocked this proposal for 25 years, continue to block it.

ES: How do we get back, now, there's so much distrust?

NC: The first way we get back is by trying the experiment of minimal honesty. If we try that experiment of minimal honesty, we look at our own position and we discover what I just described. That for 25 years, the United States has blocked the political settlement, which is supported by the majority of the Ameri-

Therefore, no one here knows that the United States once again enhanced terror by refusing to recognize the applicability of conventions which make virtually everything the United States and Israel are doing there a grave breach of the Geneva convention, which is a war crime. ~ NC

can population and by the entire world, except for Israel.

NC: The first thing we do is accept the honesty and look at it. We take a look at Camp David and we see how it's the same. The United States was still demanding a Bantustans style settlement and rejecting the overwhelming international consensus and the position of the American people.

NC: We then discovered the United States immediately moved to enhance terror in the region. So, let's continue. On September 29th, Ehud Barak put a massive military presence outside the Al Aqsa Mosque, very provocative, when people came out of the Mosque, young people started throwing stones, the Israeli army started shooting, half a dozen people were killed, and it escalated.

The next couple of days, there was no Palestinian fire at this time, and it's all on occupied territories. In the next couple of days, Israel used U.S. helicopters, Israel produces no helicopters, used U.S. helicopters to attack civilian complexes, killing about a dozen people and wounding several dozen.

NC: Clinton reacted to that on October 3rd by making the biggest deal in a decade - to send Israel new military helicopters which had just been used for the purpose I described and of course would continue to be.

The U.S. press co-operated with that by refusing to publish the story. To this day, they have not published the fact.

It continued when Bush came in. One of his first acts was to send Israel a new shipment of one of the most advanced military helicopters in the arsenal. That continues right up to a couple of weeks ago with new shipments. You take a look at the reports, from say Jenin, by British correspondents like Peter Beaumont for the London Observer. He says the worst atrocity was the Apache helicopters buzzing around, destroying and demolishing everything.

Now, this is enhancing terror, and we may easily continue. On December 14th, the security council tried to pass a resolution calling for what everyone recognized to be the obvious means for reducing terror, namely sending international monitors. That's a way of reducing

terror.

NC: This happened to be in the middle of a quiet period, which lasted for about three weeks. The U.S. vetoed it. 10 days before that, there was a meeting at Geneva of the high-contracting parties of the 4th-Geneva convention, which has unanimously held for 35 years that it applies to Israel. The meeting condemned the Israeli settlements as illegal, condemned the list of atrocities - willful destruction of property, murder, trials, torture.

NC: What happened in that meeting? I'll tell you what happened in that meeting. The U.S. boycotted it. Therefore, the media refused to publish it.

Therefore, no one here knows that the

United States once again enhanced terror by refusing to recognize the applicability of conventions which make virtually everything the United States and Israel are doing there a grave breach of the Geneva convention, which is a war crime.

NC: These conventions were established in 1949 in order to criminalize the atrocities of the Nazis in occupied territory. They are customary international law. The United States is obligated, as a high-contracting party, to prosecute violations of those conventions. That means to prosecute its own leadership for the last 25 years. They won't do it unless the population forces them to. And the population won't force them to as long as they don't know it's a fact. And they won't know it's a fact as long as the media and loyal intellectuals keep it secret.

Clash of civilizations

ES: All right, so if we were functioning around the Geneva convention, who would we then prosecute as the war criminal? Would George Bush be the war criminal? Sharon would be a war criminal?

NC: They're all acting in -

ES: Would Yassar Arafat be a war criminal?

NC: He's a criminal, but not a war criminal.

ES: What's the difference?

NC: The difference is war crime has



a technical definition. It's a crime carried out by state.

ES: Would he be guilty of crimes against humanity?

NC: Probably. Minor crimes, as compared with us.

ES: Tony Blair?

NC: Obviously.

ES: Obviously. Most leaders in the Arab states?

NC: They're criminals, but they're not war criminals. They're horrible criminals, including the ones we support. Like, all the states, every state we support is a, practically a brutal terrorist state which carries out crimes against their own society, internal to their own society. But, technically, those are not war crimes, they're just crimes.

NC: We're the ones who support the military. It's us alone. I mean, others, marginally. But, primarily, the United States is supporting the military convention and therefore, is in grave breach of the Geneva conventions because of the activities it's carrying out there. Grave breach of the Geneva convention is a war crime. Now, I'm not suggesting we have a Nuremberg trial in which we hang American leaders. I'm suggesting something much simpler.

NC: That the American, that Western intellectuals rise to the minimal level of honesty in which they tell people this, OK? In which they let the population of the United States know that their leadership is engaged in grave breaches of the Geneva convention which are war crimes, and then, not for the interest of the American people, because the majority of the population opposes it, they just don't know the government is doing it.

NC: And they don't know the government is doing it because there are intellectuals like Robert Kaplan who tell them, Oh, well, we're really nice guys, it doesn't matter if we don't. Let's try to let the population know the facts.

I'm convinced, myself, that the decent instincts of the American people will be such that they will terminate these crimes.



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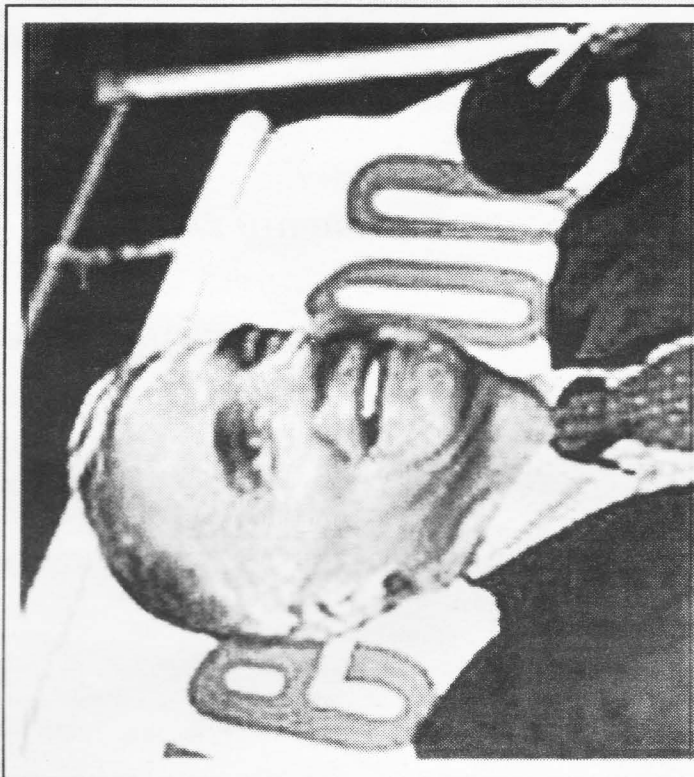
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